

## Message Text

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51

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SMI-01 SSO-00 USIE-00 SCI-01

AID-07 /020 W

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O 081145Z FEB 74

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1817

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THESSALONIKI 0071

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, PINT, GR

SUBJECT: SMITHSONIAN STAFFERS TO VISIT GREECE

REF: (1) STATE 025777 (2) THESS 0070

ATHENS ALSO FOR PAO ALEXANDER

1. ASSUME "PROFESSOR NEXTOR" (REF 1) IS ALKI NESTORA, WIFE OF STELIOS NESTOR, WHO WAS IMPRISONED IN THESSALONIKI BY PAPADOPOULOS REGIME IN 1968 AS LEADING MEMBER OF DEMOKRATIKI AMINA GROUP, "THE THESSALONIKI SIX". IF SO, SHE IS WELL KNOWN TO CONGEN AND TO AMERICAN PRIVATE AND EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY HERE, AND WAS RECIPIENT OF FORD FOUNDATION GRANT IN 1973. SHE IS ALSO EXPERT ON NORTHERN GREEK FOLKLORE BOTH BY TRAINING (SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY) AND HERITAGE FROM HER FATHER, A THESSALONIKI UNIV. PROFESSOR AND LONG-TIME HEAD OF MACEDONIAN INSTITUTE. HOWEVER, AT TIME OF HER HUSBAND'S IMPRISONMENT, SHE WAS DISMISSED FROM HER UNIVERSITY POSITION BY PAPADOPOULOS GOVERNMENT AND TO BEST OF CONGEN'S KNOWLEDGE HAS NOT SINCE BEEN REINSTATED, DESPITE HUSBAND'S RELEASE FROM PRISON UNDER GENERAL AMNESTY IN AUGUST 1973. (THESSALONIKI'S 0517) (HER POSITION AT TIME OF DISMISSAL FROM UNIVERSITY WAS THAT OF ASSISTANT TO A PROFESSOR, NOT REPEAT NOT PROFESSOR OR ASSISTANT PROFESSOR.)

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2. ALTHOUGH MRS. NESTORA UNQUESTIONABLY WELL QUALIFIED IN NORTHERN GREEK FOLKLORE AND, AS STATED ABOVE, GOOD FRIEND OF AMERICAN COMMUNITY, IT MOOT POINT WHETHER PRESENT GOG WOULD LOOK FAVORABLY UPON WORKING CONTACTS WITH HER BY REPRESENTATIVES US INSTITUTION IN THIS POTENTIALLY SENSITIVE DOMAIN. (FYI: AT SOCIAL GATHERING LAST WEEK, GOG-APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF STATE THEATER FOR NORTHERN GREECE, GEORGE KITSOPOULOS, MADE POINT OF TELLING ME HIS UNHAPPINESS OVER FORD FOUNDATION SELECTIONS OF GREEK GRANTEES IN RECENT YEARS, IN PART AT LEAST BECAUSE OF THEIR INIMICAL POLITICAL ORIENTATION. I FELT HE HAD IN MIND, INTER ALIA, MRS. NESTORA, WHOSE SELECTION HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED IN PRESS FEW WEEKS BEFORE. END FYI) IF CONSULTANTS KOENIG AND RAIM WISH TO WORK IN ACTIVE COLLABORATION WITH MRS. NESTORA HERE, WOULD RE-EMPHASIZE NECESSITY STATED REF. 2 THAT THIS BE CLEARED WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF GREEK GOVERNMENT IN ATHENS AND COMMUNICATED TO THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN THESSALONIKI, IN ORDER TO PRECLUDE MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND POSSIBILITY OF JEOPARDIZING SUCCESS THEIR MISSION.

3. IF DECISION IS AGAINST THEIR WORKING WITH MRS. NESTORA, CONGEN CAN PROPOSE OTHER EXPERTS IN NORTHERN GREEK FOLKLORE WHO ARE NOT POLITICALLY CONTROVERSIAL, INCLUDING KNOWLEDGABLE PROFESSORS AT UNIVERSITY.

4. PLEASE ADVISE.  
BRENNAN

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## Message Attributes

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